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CLAIMS

1. A liquid supply assembly for use with spraying apparatus such as a spray gun comprising a reservoir (106) for a liquid to be sprayed, the reservoir (106,109;209) having a first end, a second end (108A,109A) spaced from the first end, an end wall at the first end, a side wall (108B,109B) extending from the end wall to the second end (108A,109A), the end wall having a spout (115;215;15;415;515) providing a fluid outlet communicating with the reservoir (106,109;209), wherein the spout (115) is connectable to a spray gun for connecting the reservoir (106,109;209) to a fluid inlet of the spray gun **characterised in that** the spout (115;215;315;415;515) is provided by a cap member (132;232;332;432;532) releasably secured to the reservoir (106,109;209) around an opening (130;230;430;530) in the end wall, wherein a marginal edge of the opening (130;230;430;530) is spaced inwardly from the side wall (108B,109B) at the first end, and the reservoir (106,109;209) can be detached from the cap member (132;232;332;432;532) for adding fluid to the reservoir (106,109;209) through the opening (130;230;430;530) in the end wall.

2. The assembly of claim 1 wherein the opening (130;230;430;530) in the end wall is oversize relative to the spout (115;215;315;415;515).

3. The assembly of claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the reservoir (109;209) is collapsible as liquid is withdrawn.

4. The assembly of claim 3 wherein the side wall (109B) is flexible in comparison to the end wall so as to be capable of deforming to collapse the reservoir (109) in an axial direction from the second end towards the first end.

5. The assembly of claim 4 wherein the reservoir (109;209) is provided with a comparatively-rigid base (109A) at the second end such that the reservoir can

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be inverted and stood on the base (109A) for adding liquid through the opening (130;230;430;530) in the end wall.

6. The assembly of any preceding claim wherein the reservoir (209) is formed in one piece.

7. The assembly of claim 5 wherein the base (109A) and side wall (109B) are formed in one piece with the end wall being formed as a separate piece (110) that is secured to the side wall (109B).

8. The assembly of claim 7 wherein the base and side wall form an open topped container (109) and the end wall forms a lid (110) for the container (109).

9. The assembly of claim 8 wherein the lid (210) is permanently secured to the container (209).

10. The assembly of claim 9 wherein the lid (210) is welded or adhesively bonded to the container (209).

11. The assembly of claim 8 wherein the lid (110) is releasably secured to the container (109).

12. The assembly of claim 11 wherein the lid (110) is clamped to the container (109).

13. The assembly of any preceding claim wherein the cap member (132;232;332;432) is a screw-fit on the reservoir.

14. The assembly of any one of claims 1 to 12 wherein the cap member (532) is a snap-fit on the reservoir.

15. The assembly of claim 13 wherein the cap member (132;232;332) comprises a base defining a socket (134;234) with an internal screw thread (135;235;335) engageable with an externally threaded spigot (131;231) bounding the opening (130;230) in the reservoir.

16. The assembly of claim 13 wherein the opening (430) in the reservoir has an internal screw thread (450) and the cap member (432) has a base provided with an externally threaded portion (451) engageable with the internal screw thread (450).

17. The assembly of claim 2 wherein the spout (115;215;315;415;515) has a diameter less than half the diameter of opening (130;230;430;530).

18. The assembly of claim 17 wherein the spout (115;215;315;415;515) has a diameter less than a third the diameter of the opening (130;230;430;530).

19. The assembly of claim 18 wherein the spout (115;215;315;415;515) has a diameter less than a quarter the diameter of the opening (130;230;430;530).

20. The assembly of claim 19 wherein the opening (130;230;430;530) has a diameter of 50-60 mm and the spout (115;215;315;415;515) has a diameter of 10-15 mm.

21. The assembly of any preceding claim wherein the reservoir (106) has a central longitudinal axis and the opening (130;230;430;530) is located centrally on the longitudinal axis.

22. The assembly of claim 21 wherein the spout (115;215;315;415;515) is coaxial with the opening (130;230;430;530).

23. The assembly of any preceding claim wherein the cap member (132;232;332;432;532) is releasably connectable to the spraying apparatus.

24. The assembly of claim 23 wherein the cap member (132;232;432;532) and spraying apparatus are provided with co-operating bayonet type formations (116;216;416;516).

25. The assembly of claim 24 wherein the spraying apparatus is provided with a socket to receive the spout (115;215;415;515) and the bayonet type formations (116;216;416;516) are engageable to retain the spout (115;215;415;515) in the socket.

26. The assembly of claim 25 wherein the bayonet type (116;216;416;516) formations are engageable within the socket.

27. The assembly of claim 26 wherein the spout (115;215;415;5150 is provided with opposed bayonet lugs (116;216;416;516) at the free end that are received in bayonet grooves in the socket.

28. The assembly of claim 25 wherein the bayonet type formations (339;340) are engageable externally of the socket (319).

29. The assembly of claim 28 wherein the socket (319) has an external flange (343) co-operable with a pair of hook members (339;340) extending from the cap member (332) on opposite sides of the spout (315).

30. The assembly of any preceding claim wherein the cap member (132;232;332;432;532) includes a filter for removing any unwanted solid particles contained in the liquid withdrawn from the reservoir.

31. The assembly of claim 30 wherein the filter is located in the spout (115;215;315;415;515).

32. The assembly of claim 30 wherein the filter is located in the cap member (132;232;332;432;532) to extend across the inner end of the spout (115;215;315;415;515).

33. The assembly of any preceding claim wherein the opening (130;230;330;430;530) is sealed.

34. The assembly of claim 33 wherein the opening (230) is sealed using a removable closure (238) or a rupturable membrane.

35. The assembly of claim 34 wherein the cap member is adapted to rupture the membrane.

36. The assembly of claim 33 wherein the cap member is adapted to seal the opening until it is desired to use the liquid.

37. The assembly of claim 36 wherein the cap member is provided with a removable element to close the spout.

38. The assembly of claim 36 wherein a rupturable membrane is provided across the outer end of the spout.

39. The assembly of claim 38 wherein the spraying apparatus is adapted to rupture the membrane.

40. The assembly of claim 1 wherein the cap member (132;232;332;432) has a base and a spout (115;215;315;415), the cap member (132;232;332;432) being releasably secured to the reservoir by engagement of complementary screw

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threads (135,136;235,236;335;451) on the base and on the end wall around the opening (130;230;430), and the spout (115;215;315;415) extends from the base away from the reservoir, the spout (115;215;315;415) providing a fluid outlet of reduced cross-section relative to the opening (130;230;430).

41. The assembly of claim 40 wherein the reservoir is collapsible as liquid is withdrawn in use.

42. The assembly of claim 40 or claim 41 wherein the reservoir has a central longitudinal axis and the opening (130;230;430) and spout (115;215;315;415) are arranged coaxially with respect to the longitudinal axis.

43. The assembly of any one of claims 40 to 42 wherein the screw threads (135,136;235,236;335;451) on the reservoir and cap member (132;232;332;432) require more than one complete turn to secure the reservoir, and the cap member (132;232;332;432) is releasably connectable to the spray gun by means requiring less than one complete turn.

44. The assembly of claim 1 wherein the opening (130;230;330;430;530) is oversize relative to the flow requirements when the reservoir is connected to the spray gun in use, and the fluid outlet provided by the spout (115;215;315;415;515) is of reduced cross-section relative to the opening (130;230;330;430;530), wherein the opening (130;230;330;430;530) permits fast-filling of the reservoir when the cap member (132;232;332;432;532) is detached from the reservoir for adding fluid to the reservoir through the opening (130;230;330;430;530).

45. The assembly of claim 44 wherein the reservoir is collapsible in use as liquid is withdrawn.

46. The assembly of claim 44 or claim 45 wherein the reservoir has a base at the second end and is free-standing on the base.

47. The assembly of claim 46 wherein the base, side wall and end wall are permanently joined together.

AMENDED SHEET